

## IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Sandy City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Several sources supply our drinking water in Sandy, they include: treated surface water from Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, which comes from Little Cottonwood Creek and from Deer Creek Reservoir; and 21 City wells that pump ground water from underground aquifers located several hundred feet below the earth's surface. These wells are generally only operated during the summer months.

For more information, call Dave Fritz at (801) 352-4400.

Spring is here! We have de-winterized our sprinkler systems and are working in the yard. Let's take a quick look at how we can save a little bit of money this year on water.

As you are reviewing your water bill, take a look at your usage, even if you are on budget billing. It is helpful to be aware of what your usage is each month to be aware of any changes. If you see a spike in usage, perhaps you might have a broken sprinkler head or a leak. Catching a leak early on can save you some money and frustration later.

Budget Billing is a system that takes your annual usage and breaks it into equal monthly payments so you can budget your money easier. In November of each year, the monthly bill is adjusted for any decreases or increases in usage compared to the estimated amount. Being aware monthly of your usage can help to eliminate or decrease your chances of a larger budget billing and increased costs.

Take some time to check your stop and waste valve to make sure it is fully open for Spring since you would have shut it off for the winter. Your stop and waste valve is generally located on the service line between the water meter and the house. Monthly, turn on your system at the clock, run each station and check for leaks and coverage issues. Remember to check your clock times each month to adjust for weather so you do not waste water.

Sandy City offers FREE water audits to check your system, call 1-877-SAVE-H2O to schedule your free audit.

If you would like to learn more about how to replace or fix your sprinkler system, come visit Sandy City's Sego Lily Gardens located at 1472 E Sego Lily Drive. Our conservation garden, open from 8am to 8pm April 15th through October 1st (Closed Sundays) each year, offers a great way to learn more about saving water and maintaining your systems.

Sego Lily Gardens (801) 568-7280 or  
[www.sandy.utah.gov/segolilygardens](http://www.sandy.utah.gov/segolilygardens)  
Budget Billing, call (801) 568-7110.



## Sandy City Public Utilities 2012 Water Quality Report



Photo by: Kim Singleton

Additional copies of this report are available in the  
Public Utilities Department at City Hall



# **DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE OF CONTAMINANTS:**

**ND** – Non-detects-Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**PPM** – Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two (2) years, or a single penny in \$10,000.

**PPB** – Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**PPT** – Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**pCi/L** – picocuries per liter – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person

**AL** – Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**TT** – Treatment Technique – A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**MCL** – Maximum Contaminant Level – The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG** – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**NE** – Not established.

**UR** – Unregulated.

**Range** – Range of measurements based on testing of Sandy City sources.

(a) The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem (millirems) per year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

PRIMARY INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS					MOST LIKELY SOURCE
ANTIMONY	mg/L	0.006	0.006	<.003	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
ARSENIC	mg/L	0.01	0.01	<.001-.00172	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM	mg/L	2	2	<.001-.143	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
CHROMIUM	mg/L	0.1	0.1	<.002-.0077	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
CYANIDE	mg/L	0.2	0.2	<0.01	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
FLUORIDE	mg/L	4	4	.3-.979	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and additional fluoride to meet Salt Lake Valley Health Regulations
MERCURY	mg/L	0.002	0.002	< 0.0002	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
THALLIUM	mg/L	0.002	0.0005	<.0005-<.001	Leaching from ore processing sites and discharges from electronics, glass and drug factories.
NITRATE	mg/L	10	10	.065-2.9	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from Septic tanks, sewage and naturally eroding deposits
NITRITE	mg/L	1	1	<0.03	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from Septic tanks, sewage and naturally eroding deposits
TOTAL NITRATE & NITRITE	mg/L	10	10	.065-2.9	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from Septic tanks, sewage and naturally eroding deposits
SELENIUM	mg/l	0.05	0.05	<.001-.0014	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
SODIUM	mg/L	NE	NE	13.9-34.1	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits, road de-icing
SULFATE	mg/L	1000	NE	13.3-42.6	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	mg/L	2000	NE	128-304	Soil runoff
TURBIDITY	NTU	0.3-5.0	TT	0.015-0.15	Soil runoff, MCL if 0.5 for surface water and 5.0 for groundwater
LEAD & COPPER (Tested at customer tap)					
COPPER	mg/L	AL=1.3	1.3	<1.0	Corrosion of household plumbing system,
LEAD	mg/L	AL=0.015	0	<.0001-.000134	Corrosion of household plumbing system,
SECONDARY INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS					
CHLORIDE	mg/L	250	NE	21.2-51	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits, road de-icing
pH	units	6.5-8.5	NE	7.15-8.54	Naturally occurring
MICROBIOLOGICAL					
Total Coliform, colonies/100 mL	NA	>5%	0	0.0065	MCL for monthly compliance. All repeat samples were negative; no violations were issued. Human and animal fecal waste, naturally occurring in environment
RADIOLOGICAL					
ALPHA EMITTERS ( adjusted gross alpha )	pCi/L	15 pCi/L	15 pCi/L	<2-3.8	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
BETA/PHOTON EMITTERS	pCi/L	50	NE	<7.1	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
					Note: The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem (millirems) per year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles
COMBINED RADIUM 226 & 228	pCi/L	5	NE	<1.7	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
PESTICIDE/ PBB/SOC CONTAMINANTS					
Di(2-ETHYLHEXYL)ADIPATE	ug/L	400	400	ND	
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS					
TETRACHLOROETHYLENE	mg/L	0.005	0	0.0006	Improper disposal of dry cleaning and other solvents
REGULATED ORGANICS					
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE	ppb	NE	NE	2.3-6.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
CHLORODIBROMOMETHANE	ppb	NE	NE	1.5-2.1	By- product of drinking water chlorination
CHLOROFORM	ppb	NE	NE	.7-13.3	By-product of drinking water chlorination
DISINFECTION-BY-PRODUCTS					
TTHM[S](TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES)	ug/L	80	NE	5.7-52.4	By-product of drinking water chlorination
CHLORATE	ug/L	NE	NE	43-115	Treatment disinfection
CHLORITE	ug/L	NE	NE	39-283	Treatment disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	ug/L	NE	NE	4.8-48.6	Treatment disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA6)	ug/L	NE	NE	4.9-51.1	Treatment disinfection
ORGANIC MATERIAL					
TOC	mg/L	UR	NE	.91-2.25	Naturally occurring
UV-254	1/cm	UR	NE	.008-.035	Naturally occurring

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table above are the contaminants detected in your drinking water.